

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steve Mendelsohn on 6/1/09.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Regarding claim 91, line 5, the term --spheroidal-- has been added before "arrays of sensors".

Claim 93 has been replaced with the following: --

93. (Currently amended) A microphone, comprising a plurality of sensors mounted in an arrangement, wherein:

the number and positions of sensors in the arrangement enable representation of a beampattern for the microphone as a series expansion involving at least one second-order eigenbeam; and

all of the sensors are used to process relatively low-frequency signals, while only a subset of the sensors are used to process relatively high-frequency signals [.];

wherein only one of the sensors is used to process the relatively high-frequency signals. –

Claim 94 has been canceled.

3. The amendment above is necessary to overcome US Patent 6,526,147 issued to Rung. In Rung, each microphone pair processes signal in different frequency range. As shown in Fig. 2, Rung discloses that the microphones are arranged in an elongated housing.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-7522. The examiner can normally be reached on Wednesday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian C. Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ping Lee/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614

pwl